CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM

WITH

ATTACHED EXHIBITS

From: Donald G. MacConaugha
ALFIE ENI, LIMITED
536 Mills Building
San Francisco, California

Date: October 10, 1967

To: Lee Rashall
Editorial Director
American Broadcasting Co.
277 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, California

Subject: The Warren Commission Report and Critic Reaction

Pursuant to our continuing conversations on the omnipresent controversy about the murder of President John F. Kennedy, let us set forth some concrete details and proposals for consideration by yourself, and, if you so deem, by American Broadcasting.

First, there has never been a truly national discussion platform of this issue by both sides. The CBS series in June proclaimed such a pretense, but in actuality was as one-sided as the Warren Report itself; NBC's devious treatment of Jim Garrison's New Orleans investigation was so obvious that it resulted in the New Orleans Grand Jury indicting its producers for criminal tampering with witnesses and planting of false witnesses. These are most serious charges, ones that are defacto true. NBC, like CBS, is in deep trouble, all due to clandestine (and dishonest) acts by those placed in positions of trust by executive managements.

To date, ABC alone has remained relatively aloof and objective on this volatile matter; its treatment of an interview with Jim Garrison was forthright and honest, albeit the two moderators were insufficiently prepared for their task. In any case, ABC is now in an ideal tactical position to make its move on the subject. ABC is in a singular position to do for its industry (and the entire nation) what the other two networks have forfeited: Presenting a complete and adequate public airing of the "other" side of this momentous dilemma.

Our client, Harold Weisberg, is unquestionably the only individual qualified and capable of assuming this vital role. The accompanying exhibits will illustrate this contention.

Let us say flatly that in no way are we requesting or expecting ABC to align itself in an advocate's position; rather, we would request that ABC formally invite rebuttal participation by any or all former members of the Warren Commission and/or its staff. While both NBC and CBS have denied us this consideration, we would not deny confrontation to others.

Some 70% of the American public remains curious, skeptical, and dissatisfied with the status(quo) of this matter. No matter how hard CBS, NBC and many other news media have tried to force-feed illogical reasoning to the American public (and the world), intelligent audiences continue to resist, to demand that they be given the opportunity to decide for themselves what is and what is not truth, to once and for all see both sides of this issue - side by side.

As a direct result of this peculiar condition, ABC is confronted with a unique opportunity to overtake their competition in this vital area, capturing the imagination and allegiance of an obviously waiting audience of concerned citizens. Seldom is such an opportunity presented to a broadcaster, whereby the exercise of a public trust is more in need.

Generally, there are two mechanisms available by which to effect such a television project:

1. The series; this subject is so immensely complex that an entire series of half hour shows or hour "specials" could be tailored to cover each pertinent aspect. (Weisberg's WHITEWASH anthology is an ideal vehicle for such a series; to date his books have sold well over one-half million copies, a best-seller by any standard; and, the rights are for sale).

2. News inserts, Peter Jenning's News; this would be the ideal slot for Weisberg to act as ABC "authority" on the subject, during the course of Garrison's New Orleans trial(s). (Inadvertently, Weisberg's research in the National Archives on the New Orleans aspect of the "investigation" turned out to be a schematic or blueprint for the Garrison investigation; Weisberg's testimony before the Grand Jury was one of the major reasons for the ensuing indictments of Shaw and other alleged

"co-conspirators". The Shaw Trial is tentatively scheduled for early November, but tactical maneuvers by defense counsel may delay the start until after the first of the year).

All the aforementioned, plus the attached exhibits, should suffice for purposes of letting ABC make its momentious decision. We will await your response.

HOC:

THE PRESENTATION TO ABC INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

WW 1-2-3

THE 73-PAGE TREATISE ON CBS

LETTERS:

HW TO SALANT 7/1/67
" " MIDDLEY "
BROOKS TO HW 7/7/67
HW TO SALANT 7/28
HW TO GOODMAN 8/16
McANDREWS TO HW 8/30
HW TO McANDREWS 9/2
HW TO RFK 6/26-6/28-7/22
HW TO KUCHEL 7/17
KUCHEL TO HW 8/2
HW TO KUCHEL 8/7
HW TO FULBRIGHT 8/9
HW TO HELGETH 8/5

MAC CONNAUGHA IS A PARTNER – ALSO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE GOLDEN
GATEWAY PROJECT HERE – A $150-MILLION
DEVELOPMENT

GOOD MAN – GOOD REPUTATION –

GOOD FOR US

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